

Indo-UK Research Project

2871. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and UK have signed an agreement for joint research project under the Science and Technology Agreement, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of benefits likely to be arrived therefrom; and

(d) the areas where this agreement is likely to work and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) An Indo-UK S and T Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology was signed in New Delhi on January 8, 1996. In pursuance of this Agreement, an Implementing Arrangements was also concluded simultaneously. The Arrangement envisages initially joint research projects in Agro-food, Telecommunications and Manufacturing Technologies. There is a provision for the formation of an Indo-British S and T Joint Committee to develop and monitor the S and T Cooperation. As a follow-up of this initiative joint proposals, preferably having relevance to industry, have been invited from the Indian and the British scientists. It is expected that the collaboration would facilitate in the advancement of technologies.

Quality of Drinking Water in Delhi

2872. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Drinking water no longer safe in Delhi" appearing in the 'Hindu' dated February 23, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking (DWS and SDU) has reported that raw water from the river Yamuna is drawn upstream of Wazirabad Barrage for treatment and supply to Delhi. Drinking water being supplied is potable, wholesome and conforms to the standards laid down for this purpose in the Bureau of India Standards 10500-1991 and Manual on Water Supply and treatment. Quality control measures are taken right from the raw water stage upto the consumer end. Arrangements to monitor the

presence of pesticides in drinking water are being made. The DWS and SDU has also started getting the raw as well as drinking water examined by the Central Pollution Control Board to ensure potability of water.

Self Employment Schemes

2873. DR. T. SUBBARAM! REDDY :

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :

KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVIN CHANDRA MEHTA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a decline in the employment opportunities during the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are working on a massive scheme to provide self-employment to the educated unemployed in the country;

(d) if so, whether the Prime Minister had issued any directive to the various departments to prepare a report on this issue;

(e) if so, whether any concrete programme for self-employment has been worked out including the number of persons likely to be benefitted as a result thereof; and

(f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be announced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) to (f) The Government is contemplating rationalising the existing schemes so that the educated unemployed youths are assisted in an improve manner.

Drinking Water Facility

2874. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in Bihar not getting drinking water facility;

(b) whether any survey has been carried out to provide safe drinking water to the far flung villages of Bihar;

(c) if so, the schemes/proposals approved in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) As on 1.02.97 there were 6364 'habitations' in Bihar without the facility of safe drinking water supply.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The schemes under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programmes are approved by the states under the powers delegated to them. The Schemes under the Minimum Needs Programme are also approved by the States.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Legislation by the Lalit Kala Academy (Taking over the Management Ordinance, 1997)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Lalit Kala Academy (Taking over the Management Ordinance, 1997)

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1520/97]

Legislation by the National Highways Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : On behalf of Shri T.G. Venkatraman, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the National Highways Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1521/97]

Demands of Grants of the Department of Space for the year 1997-98.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Space for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1522/97]

Indian Forest Service and action taken by Government on the assurances, promises and undertaking given by the Ministers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Indian Forest Service (Appointment by Promotion) (First) Amendment Regulations, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 58(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th February, 1997, under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1523/97]

- (2) A copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on the assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Lok Sabha :-

- (i) Statement No. XL - Second Session, 1990

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1524/97]

Ninth Lok Sabha

- (ii) Statement No. XXIX - Seventh Session, 1991

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1525/97]

- (iii) Statement No. XXXVI - First Session, 1991

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1526/97]

- (iv) Statement No. XXX - Second Session, 1991

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1527/97]

- (v) Statement No. XXXII - Third Session, 1992

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1528/97]

- (vi) Statement No. XXIX - Fourth Session, 1992

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1529/97]

Tenth Lok Sabha

- (vii) Statement No. XXVI - Fifth Session, 1992

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1530/97]

- (viii) Statement No. XXVI - Sixth Session, 1993

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1531/97]

- (ix) Statement No. XXII - Seventh Session, 1993

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1532/97]

- (x) Statement No. XXI - Eighth Session, 1993

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1533/97]

- (xi) Statement No. XIX - Ninth Session, 1994

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1534/97]